

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07226 192013 Z

67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 VO-03

SCA-01 INSE-00 FBIE-00 RSR-01 /095 W
----- 130107

R 191954 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9747

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 7226

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, UR, UK

SUBJ: EASING OF UK- USSR " VISA WAR"

1. UK CONSUL IN MOSCOW (114953:5) INFORMED AMCONSOFFS JUNE 14 THAT BRITISH- SOVIET " VISA WAR" WHICH FOLLOWED EXPULSION OF " BRITISH 105" IS LARGELY OVER AND THAT VISA ISSUANCES ON BOTH SIDES NOW PROCEEDING " MORE OR LESS NORMALLY". HE PRESENTED STATISTICS ON BRITISH VISA ISSUANCES (WORLDWIDE) TO SOVIET NATIONALS, WHICH CONFIRMS THIS CONCLUSION. ISSUANCES TO OFFICIAL SOVIET PERSONNEL, FOR EXAMPLE, AFTER FALLING APPROX . 28 PER CENT FROM 4,372 IN 1971 TO 3,168 IN 1972, REACHED LEVEL OF 1,466 IN FIRST FOUR MONTHS THIS YEAR. PROJECTED OVER YEAR, THIS WOULD RETURN TOTAL ISSUANCES IN THIS CATEGORY TO LEVEL JUST ABOVE THAT OF 1971.

2. UK CONSUL STATED THAT EVEN DURING PERIOD OF " VISA WAR", MOST VISA REQUEST FOR DIPLOMATIC AND TRADE PERSONNEL WERE ISSUED, ALTHOUGH BOTH SIDES IMPOSED DELAYS OF SEVERAL MONTHS IN SOME CASES (PARTICULARLY DIPLOMATIC). HE INDICATED THAT OFFICIAL VISA CATEGORY AFFECTED MOST SIGNIFICANTLY DURING THIS PERIOD WAS THAT OF GROUPS TRAVELING UNDER AUSPICES OF US UK- USSR EXCHANGES PROGRAMS AND THAT CANCELLATION IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 07226 192013 Z

1972 OF UK TOUR OF A LARGE SOVIET PERFORMING ARTS
GROUP IN ITSELF ACCOUNTED FOR " NON- ISSUANCE OF OVER
100 VISAS."

3. BRITISH ISSUANCES TO PRIVATE SOVIET TRAVELERS
DROPPED LESS DRAMATICALLY FROM 588 IN 1971 TO 512 IN
1972 (ABOUT 13 PERCENT). TOTAL PRIVATE ISSUANCES
REACHED ONLY 90 IN FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF THIS YEAR
(CF. US TOTALS OF 191 SOVIET IMMIGRANTS AND 225
PRIVATE VISITORS TO US RELATIVES IN SAME PERIOD). UK CONSUL
ATTRIBUTED THIS TO TWO FACTORS: A) UK EXIT VISA REPRESENTATION
EFFORT IN IMMIGRANT CASES HAS BEEN LARGELY RESOLVED
OVER PAST FEW YEARS WITH MAJORITY SUCH INSTANCES NOW
INVOLVING " A FEW CASES PER YEAR" OF MARRIAGES BETWEEN
UK AND SOVIET CITIZENS; AND B) FOUR- MONTH ISSUANCE
FIGURES DO NOT ENCOMPASS SUMMER CRUISE SEASON, WHICH
GENERALLY BRINGS TWO TO THREE HUNDRED " PRIVATE" VISITORS
TRAVELING ON SOVIET SHIPS.
DUBS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW07226
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730624/aaaajhov.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <16-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980217
Subject: EASING OF UK- USSR " VISA WAR"
TAGS: CVIS, UK, UR
To: EUR
LONDON
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005